

REMARKS

In the Office Action, a restriction requirement was placed on the pending claims. Specifically, restriction was required between claims 1-23 (Group I) and claims 24-25 (Group II). In response, Applicants elect to prosecute the invention of Group I. The Examiner also required election of one of the following species: (i) nanoparticle compound listed in claim 8 and (ii) metal ion listed in claim 9. Applicants hereby provisionally elect, with traverse, to continue prosecution on the species identified as "silica" in claim 8 and "copper ion" in claim 9. Claims 1-21 and 23 are generic and read on the elected species. Furthermore, it is respectfully submitted that, once the elected species and generic claims are allowed, then the remaining claims directed to the other non-elected species should be allowed as well.

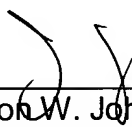
Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in complete condition for allowance and favorable action, therefore, is respectfully requested. Examiner Zhang is invited and encouraged to telephone the undersigned, however, should any issues remain after consideration of this response. Please charge any additional fees required by this Response to Deposit Account No. 04-1403.

Date: _____

12/13/06

Respectfully requested,

DORITY & MANNING, P.A.



Jason W. Johnston
Registration No. 45,675
P.O. Box 1449
Greenville, SC 29602-1449
Phone: (864) 271-1592
Facsimile: (864) 233-7342